

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) [[In a]] A data processing system comprising:
  - a. a legacy data base management system having a command language and having an internal data format incompatible with an XML document coupled to a publicly accessible digital data communication network;
  - b. a user terminal coupled to said legacy data base management system via said publicly accessible digital data communication network which generates an XML service for requesting said legacy data base management system to process said XML document in a specified manner; and
  - c. an input definition facility ~~responsively coupled to~~ located within said legacy data base management system which defines the input coming into said XML service and loads said XML document for said XML service to said legacy data base management system for processing.
2. (Original) The improvement according to claim 1 wherein said XML service further comprises a plurality of variables.

3. (Original) The improvement according to claim 2 wherein said XML service further comprises a plurality of tables.

4. (Original) The improvement according to claim 3 wherein said XML service further comprises executable script.

5. (Previously Presented) The improvement according to claim 4 wherein said publicly accessible digital data communication network further comprises the Internet.

6. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:

- a. a publicly accessible digital data communication network;
- b. a data base management system having an internal format different from XML responsively coupled to said publicly accessible digital data communication network;
- c. a facility which generates an input service requesting that said data base management system process an XML document; and
- d. a converter located within said data base management system which translates said input service into said internal format and presents said translated input service to said data base management system.

7. (Original) The apparatus of claim 6 wherein said input service further comprises an XML input service.

8. (Original) The apparatus of claim 7 wherein said XML input service further comprises a plurality of variables.

9. (Original) The apparatus of claim 8 wherein said facility further comprises a plurality of sample XML messages.

10. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 9 wherein said publicly accessible digital data communication system further comprises the Internet.

11. (Previously Presented) A method of supplying an XML input service to a legacy data base management system having an internal format incompatible with said XML input service from a user terminal comprising:

- a. retrieving a sample document from a repository of said legacy data base management system;
- b. editing said document into said XML input service by said user terminal;
- c. converting said desired input service into said internal format; and

- d. presenting said converted desired input XML service to said legacy data base management system for honoring.

12. (Original) A method according to claim 11 wherein said sample document further comprises an XML document.

13. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 12 wherein said XML document further comprises a plurality of variables.

14. (Original) A method according to claim 13 wherein said XML document further comprises a plurality of tables.

15. (Original) A method according to claim 14 wherein said XML document further comprises executable script.

16. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:

- a. storing means for storing a sample input service;
- b. means responsively coupled to said storing means for retrieving said sample input service;
- c. editing means responsively coupled to said retrieving means for editing said sample input service into a desired input service;

d. providing means containing said storing means for providing legacy data processing management services; and  
d e. transferring means responsively coupled to said editing means and said providing means for transferring said desired input from said editing means to said providing means.

17. (Original) An apparatus according to claim 16 wherein said storing means further comprises a repository.

18. (Original) An apparatus according to claim 17 wherein said sample input service further comprises an XML input service.

19. (Original) An apparatus according to claim 18 wherein said XML input service further comprises a plurality of variables.

20. (Original) An apparatus according to claim 19 wherein said XML input service further comprises a plurality of tables.

21. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for communicating within a data processing environment comprising:

- a. A user terminal which transfers an XML message and receives a corresponding data processing response;
- b. A converter which converts said XML message into a data processing service request including an ordered sequence of

native command language statements and a plurality of input parameters; and

c. A legacy database management system containing said converter and responsively coupled to said user terminal via a publicly accessible digital data communication network which honors said data processing service request by executing said ordered sequence of native command language statements and utilizing said plurality of input parameters and generating said corresponding data processing response.

22. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 21 wherein said legacy database management system further comprises a mainframe computer.

23. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 22 wherein said user terminal further comprises an industry standard personal computer.

24. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 23 wherein said legacy database management system further comprises a repository for storage of said ordered sequence of statements of said native command language prior to execution.

25. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 24 wherein said corresponding data processing response further comprises an XML message.